

FB AP 830607

2

IV. 7 Jun 83

E 3

SOUTH KOREA

The Koreans in Japan are mostly those who were commandeered by imperial Japan to serve as war laborers during World War II.

The second meeting was to be held last year but was scuttled by an emotion-charged textbook issue in which Japan glossed over its past atrocity during its militaristic imperial time. Last year the two neighbors were also at loggerheads over Seoul-requested development loan, thus contributing to the failure of the second meeting. Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone's visit to Seoul last January, however, helped remove the sore spots, paving the way for the second meeting in Seoul, sources said.

The first meeting led Japan to address a problem involved in the pension law and to expand the permissible range for permanent residential rights by revising its immigration control decree.

Asian Affairs Bureau directors of the two countries' foreign ministries will lead their respective delegations to the Seoul meeting.

#### USSR WON'T DISCUSS SAKHALIN KOREANS WITH JAPAN

SK050141 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 5 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] Tokyo (Special) -- The Soviet Union has allowed only three Koreans to leave Sakhalin for Japan since 1975 despite the willingness of the Japanese Government to accept 411 of the 438 Koreans who applied for entry permits.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone said Saturday that the Soviet Union does not regard the return of Koreans as a matter to be discussed with Japan. The prime minister's remark was continued in a written answer to a Diet member's questionnaire.

The Soviet Union has refused to comply with the Japanese request for an investigation of the condition under which Koreans live in Sakhalin, said Nakasone who implied negotiations over Koreans' return either to Japan or to Korea via Japan are not moving forward. Of the 438 Koreans who wanted to leave Sakhalin, 392 people wish to return to Korea, it was learned.

In his questionnaire to the prime minister, Rep. Shozo Kusakawa called for a Japanese action to solve the issue from humanitarian and moral grounds. He said Japan is responsible for their return because they are mostly those who were mobilized for forced labor during World War II.

Prime Minister Nakasone told him that Japan delivered to the Soviet Union a list of Koreans hoping to return home, compiled by the Seoul government in 1969.

The Japanese Government requested the Soviet Union several times between 1973-78 that it study the possibility of allowing Koreans to leave Sakhalin, he said.

The issue, he said, was also taken up at working-level meetings between Japan and the Soviet Union.

#### TRADE MINISTER LEAVES FOR BELGRADE UNCTAD MEETING

SK041059 Seoul YONHAP in English 1037 GMT 4 Jun 83

[Text] Seoul, June 4 (YONHAP) -- South Korean Commerce-Industry Minister Kim Tong-hwi, leading a 16-member delegation, left here Saturday evening for Belgrade, Yugoslavia, to attend the sixth general meeting of the United Nations' Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) June 6-30.

Approved for Release  
Date

57